

# Day Lodge Coming To Soldier Hollow

BY DAVE ANDERTON

Wave Editor 7-12-00

A new day lodge will be completed by this December, just in time for next winter's World Cup skiing competitions at Soldier Hollow.

The structure was praised by state and local Olympic officials at a groundbreaking ceremony last Wednesday as a legacy to the Soldier Hollow venue and as a permanent facility that would benefit the state.

The 5,200 square-foot lodge, will be headquarters for ski

rentals, ski school and food concessions. The structure's \$880,000 cost was obtained by an appropriation spearheaded by Rep. Gordon Snow, of the Utah Legislature.

Howard Peterson, executive director of the Soldier Hollow Legacy Foundation, said novice skiing trails will connect the lodge to the site's main Olympic trails.

"This is not just a racing system," Peterson said. "There will be 40 kilometers of trails when the Olympics are over," adding that an "easy" trail will connect

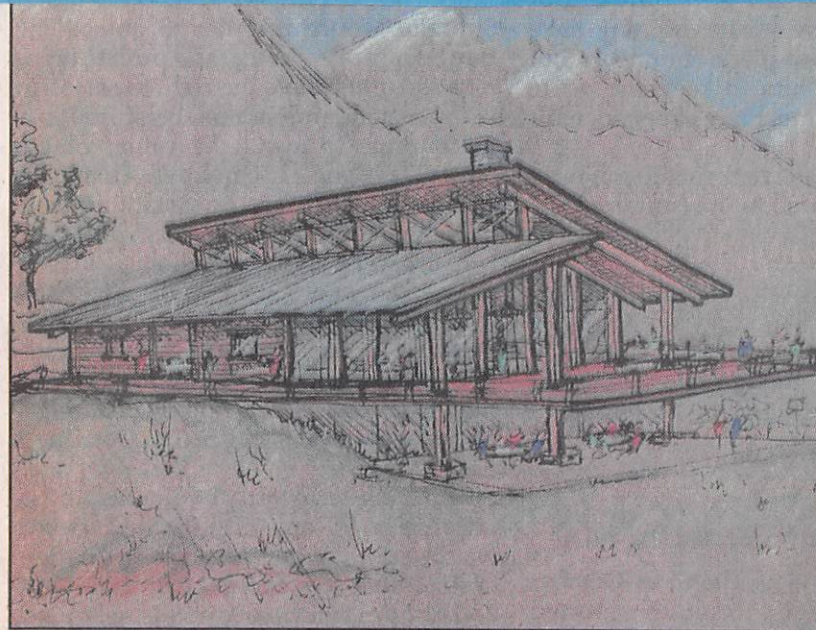
the Heber Valley Railroad with the lodge.

Peterson said his goal is to draw 4,000 skiers annually to the site during the next five years. After the Olympics, the goal will be to bring in 20,000 skiers each year to offset annual operational costs of \$440,000.

That means a boost to the local economy. Peterson cites a 1998 National Sporting Goods Association study that estimates destination travelers spending \$160 per person per day in areas they visit. A large number of those visitors will be Park City

alpine skiers who come to Soldier Hollow for one or two days for something different. In addition, skiing this winter will be free to any youth groups through high school, minus a nominal \$2 per person equipment/lesson fee.

The Legacy Foundation will act as the concessionaire of the lodge for the next 10 years. Peterson said the organization already has a head start. No debt will be owed on the lodge, and most trails and a snow making system are already in place, leaving only operational costs.







## SLOC Isn't Winning Medals With Midway City Council

BY JOSHUA K. JONES  
Wave Staff Writer

8-9-00

Thursday the Midway City Council digested the Salt Lake Organizing Committee's (SLOC) predicted daily averages of vehicles that will be traveling through the tiny town on their way to the Soldier Hollow Olympic Venue. The council was dismayed by the thousands of vehicles that will pummel city streets during 16 days in 2002 and spelled out their anxiety in a proposed resolution to be passed during the next scheduled meeting. "They felt they weren't being heard and they expressed that," explained Midway City Planning Director Brian Preece. According to Senior Transportation Manager Robert Preece, River Road will transport between 125 and 195 buses (filled with Olympic sponsors) every morning between 6 a.m. and 8 a.m. along with 200 cars for Olympic family and media. River Road will be closed to and SLOC vehicles. This is a small percentage of the total vehicles predicted to visit Heber Valley. SLOC estimated 6,000 private cars will travel from the Wasatch Front, drive on U.S.-40 through Heber City and park in yet-to-be-constructed parking lots around the county, though a major allocation will be in County Sewer fields located north of the Heber City Airport on U.S.-189. These collector lots will have shuttle service to the venue. The Midway Council unanimously made sure citizens come first during the Games. The council appealed to SLOC for citizens to have a "rest-dent's pass" that Midway residents would hang on their rear view mirrors. This would allow for citizens to travel fairly unimpeded, as long as they don't get caught in a traffic jam. Midway requested SLOC to do several traffic studies, one on Burgl Lane to see how they plan to handle the already 3,500 vehicles which travel that road, and how those citizens will merge into River Road in the morning. Finally, the city also will draft a resolution, expected to pass during the next meeting that will close 250 West to all traffic except Midway citizens during the games. This road was on SLOC's master plan to carry over 260 athletes to the venue from the Homestead Resort, where they will be staying. But Midway said this road is already in disrepair and would be unsafe for the additional stress on the road. "It would be worse for us to allow unsafe conditions to occur," stated Councilperson Kohler. Preece said after the meeting that he would ask the council to consider their legal counsel before closing the road. In the meantime, Preece said his committee will, "continue to look at it, as they have been looking at the road in the past." Preece also said a but-flowing roads will also be a burden. "It takes us a day and a half to get our roads plowed," said Councilperson Karl North. The council wondered how they would manage the added stress if there was a snowfall. SLOC said they would look into the problem. "You have done not one single improvement in our town-not one," the council expressed a dissatisfaction for the amount of improvements Midway has received in comparison to Park City and the Wasatch Front. "We feel that we have talked an awful lot and never been heard," Kohler said. But Party believes the statistics between Summit and Wasatch County are more equal than they appear. He said many projects already scheduled for Summit County were accelerated with Utah Department of Transportation. And he cites the four-lane extension into Heber or U.S.-40 and a new connection from Midway to the Olympic Venue along with sewer improvements as major contributions to the county from the Olympics. The council agreed to meet for another meeting in six months when SLOC said they would have traffic studies completed and ready for review.

## SPORTS . . . B1

Heber's Austin Cummings is flying high in aerial skiing. Cummings is helping launch the "Wheels to Winter" program for the Olympic Youth Sport program.

## WINTERTON'S MARKET . . . A4

Emotions ran thin Thursday evening as the Midway City Council approved, for the second time, a new Winterton's Market. Accusations and racial slurs dominated most of the nearly three-hour public hearing.

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